

MATERIAL FOR PROTECTING ARTICLES HAVING A  
NONWOVEN FABRIC BONDED TO A SHRINK FILM BY AN  
ADHESIVE APPLIED IN A PRE-DETERMINED PATTERN

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application No. 09/664,896 filed on September 19, 2000. The disclosure of the above application is incorporated herein by reference. <sup>^</sup>now US Patent 6,562,740.

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Technical Field

[0002] This invention relates to a material for protecting articles during transport and storage, a method of manufacturing the material, and a method of using the material to protect articles.

Background of the Invention

[0003] Large articles, such as automobiles, machinery and boats must often be transported from the factory to the ultimate consumer on open trucks where they are exposed to the environment. Consumers expect that new automobiles, boats and machinery to be in pristine condition, and will not tolerate defects. As discussed in prior United States Patent No. 5,491,017, damage may be caused by a number of factors, including acid rain and hurled objects, such a small rocks and stones. The wrap material disclosed in United States Patent No. 5,491,017 includes a nonwoven fabric intermittently bonded to a shrinkable and stretchable film that has a pre-determined shrink response as heat is applied thereto. The material is formed into a bag which is placed over the object be protected. The bag is then shrunk around the

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